C5 concl'd

32. (Twice Amended) The electroluminescent device according to claim 28, the thin-film layer being disposed only between the anode and the light-emitting layer.

REMARKS

Claims 15, 17, 19-28, 30-38 and 40 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 16, 18 and 29 are cancelled, and claims 15, 17, 19, 28, and 30-32 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

I. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 15-19 and 28-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,739,635 to Wakimoto (hereinafter "Wakimoto"); claims 20, 21, 26, 27, 33, 34 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Wakimoto; claims 22, 23, 25, 35, 36 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as patentable over Wakimoto in view of U.S. Patent 6,111,356 to Roitman et al. (hereinafter "Roitman"); and claims 24 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Wakimoto in view of JP 10-36487 (the 487 patent). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Wakimoto does not disclose a bank for defining a pixel, as recited in clams 15 and 28. Instead, Wakimoto is silent about pixel partitions such as a bank.

Further, neither Roitman nor the 487 patent make up for the deficiencies of Wakimoto. Thus, even combining these references with Wakimoto would not result in the claimed invention.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15 and 28 are patentable over the applied references. The dependent claims are likewise patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed as well as for the additional features they

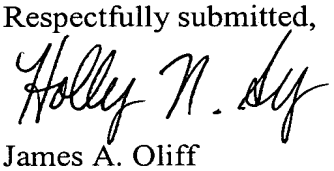
recite. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) are respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Holly N. Sy
Registration No. 50,212

JAO:HNS/cfr

ATTACHMENT:
Appendix

Date: April 11, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Claims 16, 18 and 29 are cancelled.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

15. (Twice Amended) An electroluminescent device, comprising:

a bank defining a pixel;

an anode provided for the pixel;

a light-emitting layer provided in the pixel and above the anode and including at least an organic polymer ~~and disposed between an anode and a cathode; and~~

~~means~~ a thin-film layer provided on the light-emitting layer for suppressing current flowing through the light-emitting layer and not contributing to light emission~~disposed at at least one of a position between the light emitting layer and the anode, and a position between the light emitting layer and the cathode~~; and

a cathode provided on the thin-film layer.

17. (Twice Amended) The electroluminescent device according to claim 15, the ~~means for suppressing current flowing through the light emitting layer and not contributing to light emission~~ thin-film layer including at least one material selected from the group consisting of a fluoride or an oxide of an alkali metal, a fluoride or an oxide of an alkaline earth metal, and a fluoride or an oxide of a group III element in the periodic table.

19. (Twice Amended) The electroluminescent device according to claim 15, the ~~means for suppressing current flowing through the light-emitting layer and not contributing to light emission~~ thin-film layer being disposed only between the anode and the light-emitting layer.

28. (Twice Amended) An electroluminescent device, comprising:

a bank defining a plurality of pixels;

a plurality of anodes, each of the anodes being provided for each of the plurality of pixels;

a plurality of light-emitting ~~layer~~ layers, each of the light emitting layers being provided in each of the plurality of pixels and the above each of the plurality of anodes and including at least an organic polymer ~~and disposed between an anode and a cathode, the light-emitting layer including the organic polymer being formed by a printing method; and~~

~~means~~ a thin-film layer commonly provided on the plurality of light-emitting layers for suppressing current flowing through the plurality of light-emitting ~~layer~~ layers and not contributing to light emission ~~disposed at at least one of a position between the light-emitting layer and the anode, and a position between the light layer and the cathode~~; and

a cathode provided on the thin-film layer.

30. (Twice Amended) The electroluminescent device according to claim 28, the ~~means for suppressing current flowing through the light-emitting layer and not contributing to light emission~~ thin-film layer including at least one material selected from the group consisting of a fluoride or an oxide of an alkali metal, a fluoride or an oxide of an alkaline earth metal, and a fluoride or an oxide of a group III element in the periodic table.

31. (Twice Amended) The electroluminescent device according to claim 29, the ~~means for suppressing current flowing through the light-emitting layer and not contributing to~~

~~light emission~~ thin-film layer including at least one material selected from the group consisting of a fluoride or an oxide of an alkali metal, a fluoride or an oxide of an alkaline earth metal, and a fluoride or an oxide of a group III element in the periodic table.

32. (Twice Amended) The electroluminescent device according to claim 28, the ~~means for suppressing current flowing through the light-emitting layer and not contributing to light emission~~ thin-film layer being disposed only between the anode and the light-emitting layer.